

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 02056 281722Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----128146 281759Z /41
O 281555Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1409
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION SINIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 2056

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, MRS. CYRUS)
SUBJECT: MRS. VANCE'S VISIT TO ST. CATHERINE'S MONASTERY
EXDIS
REF: (A) STATE 188298, (B) JERUSALEM 2055, (C) NEWLIN-
KORN TELECON

1. BELIEVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT TO MONASTERY AND OVER-
NIGHT CAN BE MADE, BUT NEED AUTHORIZATION TO BEGIN
PREPARATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. MONASTERY IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX
ARCHBISHOP OF SINAI AND HIS PERMISSION MUST BE OBTAINED
FOR OVERNIGHT STAY. MONASTIC COMMUNITY IS SMALL AND
ALMOST TOTALLY ENGAGED IN RELIGIOUS SERVICES. IT WILL
BE NECESSARY TO TAKE ALONG FOOD FOR EVENING MEAL AND BREAKFAST
(CONGEN CAN ARRANGE THIS) SINCE MONASTERY CANNOT
PROVIDE MEALS.

3. AGREE WITH OBJECTIVES PARA THREE STATE188298 OF GROUP
MAKING TRIP TO ST. CATHERINE'S BE KEPT SMALL AS
POSSIBLE. RECOMMEND THIS INCLUDE: MRS. VANCE, MRS.
LEWIS, MRS. ATHERTON, MYSELF, ONE U.S. SECURITY AGENT
AND ONE ISRAELI SECURITY AGENT.
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4. ASSUME IDF WILL FLY GROUP FROM NEAREST AIRFIELD TO
SFM TO MT. SINIA AIR STRIP AND IDF WILL PROVIDE SECURITY
ESCORT FROM THERE TO MONASTERY. AFTER LAST DAY VISITORS
LEAVE MONASTERY IN EARLY AFTERNOON, GATES ARE CLOSED AND
LOCKED FOR THE NIGHT.

5.ACCOMMODATIONS ARE LIMITED BUT BASED ON PAST OFFICIAL VISITS, ARRANGED THROUGH GREEK CONSUL GENERAL, WHO IS THE RESPONSIBLE SECULAR OFFICIAL, SINGLE ROOMS FOR LADIES CAN BE OBTAINED. MALE MEMBERS OF THE PARTY WOULD HAVE TO BE PREPARED TO DOUBLE UP.

6. ABOVE COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY TEL AVIV.
NEWLIN

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O.

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